Other relaxation extended to agricultural borrowers include:

* Payment of interest to be insisted upon only at the time of repayment of laon installments fixed.
* Banks not to compound interest on current dues in respect of long duration crop loans and installments not falling due in respect of term loans.
* Total interest debited to the accounts of small and marginal farmers not to exceed the principal amount in respect of short-term advances.
* Government's Policy announcement on 18th June, 2004 includes a One Time Settlement (OTS) Scheme for small and marginal farmers, under which banks are required to formulate guidelines, with the approval of their Board of Directors, on one time settlement for small and marginal farmers, who have been declared as defaulters and have become ineligible for fresh credit. Detailed guidelines have been issued by Indian Banks' Association (IBA) to commercial banks and by NABARD to RRBs and Cooperative Banks.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Premium fixed Income to Pensioners

3471. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite privatisation of Insurance Sector, there is no premium fixed income product available from the insurance sector;

(b) whether it is a fact that this has adversely affected the LIC products which offered one-time premium fixed income to the pensioners; and

(c) whether his Ministry would advise Insurance Sector to devise a product with one-time premium and minimum assured income to address the concerns of the pensioners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) LIC have informed that they have two types of regular income products. Immediate Annuity Products provides for fixed income immediately on payment of premium. On the other hand the Defered Annuity Products give regular income after the deferment period. Income under deferred products are not guaranteed at the time of purchase of such annuity products. However, a fixed amount of annuity is guaranteed once the payment starts after the deferment period.